

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Discrimination is the way to treat one particular group of people less favorably than others because of their race, color, nationality, or ethnic or national origin. The law in Britain recognizes two kinds of racial discrimination that are direct and indirect. Direct discrimination occurs when race, color, nationality, or ethnic or national origin is used as an explicit reason for discrimination. Indirect discrimination occurs when there are rules, regulations or procedures operating, which have the effect of discriminating against certain groups of people. This may happen in subtle ways. For example, staff at a shop in Blackburn has to wear a uniform skirt, but Asian woman workers refuse for religious reasons. A tribunal found the shop guilty of indirect discrimination, because a large number of Asian women would not be able to comply with the rule.

Discrimination can be defined as treating people or groups of people less favorably than others due to factors relating to race, color, gender, disability, ethnic origin, nationality, age, and religion. Unfortunately there are many groups in society that face discrimination every day, and this discrimination can take a variety of forms including direct and indirect discrimination. Direct discrimination is when someone openly and obviously treats someone differently due to the above factors. An example of direct

discrimination could be when a woman is deliberately ignored for promotion even though she meets all the criteria, in favour of a man who has fewer qualifications. This is discrimination on the grounds of gender. Indirect discrimination is when a rule, requirement or condition is imposed, which effectively leads to less favorable treatment for a particular group of people. An example of indirect discrimination could be a job advertisement such as Assistant required, must speak fluent English. This is indirect discrimination because it might exclude people whose first language is not English or recent immigrants. It is an example of growing body of legislation preventing and making ill.

Women usually refer to adult human beings who are biologically female that is capable of bearing offspring. Women are the general term. It is neutral, lacking either favorable or unfavorable implication or it commonly uses of the three: wealthy women, women of strong character, women of unbridled appetites. In scientific, statistical, and other objective use, female is the neutral contrastive term to male and may apply to plants and animals. Among lions, the female is the chief hunter. Female is sometimes used in disparaging contexts: a gossiping female, a conniving female. Lady meaning “refined, polite women” is a term of approval or praise: a real lady in all things; to behave like a lady.

Though women discrimination refers to beliefs and attitudes in relation to women of a person, such beliefs and attitudes are of a social nature and do not, normally, carry any legal consequences. Women discrimination, on the

other hand, may have legal consequences. Women discrimination varies between countries. The essence is that it is an adverse action taken by one person against another person that would not occur the person to another person. Discrimination of that nature in certain enumerate circumstances is illegal in many countries.

*Inside the Kingdom* is written by Carmen Bin Laden in 2004. It is an intimate account of life, and the journey one embarks on when one truly wishes to 'live life'. Carmen writes her live. This book is a Carmen's live, but it does not about herself but tells about her environment.

*Inside the Kingdom* is a spectacular book, encompassing personal and family history, political history, and a culture of "Saudi Arabia". This book tells about women discrimination in Saudi Arabia.

Carmen Bin Ladin was born in Geneva, Switzerland in 1954. She was raised in Lausanne, Switzerland. Her father, Dufour. He comes from Swiss and her mother, Mirdoht Sheybani. She is a Persian. She has three sisters named Salome, Beatrice and Magnolia. When she had graduated from senior high school, she met with Yeslam Bin Ladin, the brother of Osama Bin Laden. She married with him in Jeddah Saudi Arabia in August 8, 1974. Then, they moved to Los Angeles to study at University of Southern California. In 1976, they returned to Jeddah in Kilometers Seven, a place where Bin Laden Family lived. She has three daughters named Wafah, Najia, and Noor. But there is something happened in her marriage, so she divorced with Yeslam in 1994. Finally, they formally divorced in 2006.

Carmen Bin Laden separates from her husband and begins one of her toughest battles to gain the custody of her three daughters. Her candid memoir, she dares to pull off the veils that conceal one of the most powerful, secretive, and repressive countries in the world and the Bin Laden family's role. *Inside the Kingdom* is shocking, impossible to put down, and a must-read for anyone who wishes to understand the events of today's world. For more than a dozen years during the 1970s and 1980s, Carmen Bin Laden lives a shadowy and increasingly threatens existence as the problematic foreign wife of a junior member of Saudi Arabia's powerful Bin Laden clan.

*Inside The Kingdom* is written because incident on September 11, 2001. Carmen Bin Ladin heard the news that the Twin Towers has been struck. She instinctively knows that her brother-in-law is involved in these horrifying acts of terrorism and her heart go out to America. She also knows that her life and the lives of her daughters would never be the same again. American society thinks that Carmen still has relation with Osama. It is the cause of American society has under estimated with Carmen and her children. That situation motivates Carmen to tell the real position of her life at this time.

In 1974 Carmen, half-Swiss and half-Persian, married into the Bin Laden family. She is young and in love, an independent European woman about to join a complex clan and a culture she neither know nor understand. In Saudi Arabia, she is forbidden to leave her home without the head-to-toe black abaya that completely covered her. Her face could never be seen by a man outside the family.

Carmen is an outsider among the Bin Laden wives, their closets full of haute couture dresses, their rights so restricted that they could not go outside their homes-not even to cross the street-without a chaperone. The author takes inside the hearts and minds of these women always at the mercy of the husbands who totally control their lives, and always convince that their religion and culture are superior to any other. And as Carmen tells of her struggle to save her marriage and raise her daughters to be freethinking young women, she describes this family's ties to the Saudi royal family and introduces us to the ever loyal Bin Laden brothers, including one particular brother-in-law she is to encounter-Osama.

She escapes a veil and psychologically suffocates life in the most restrictive Islamic nation in the world, and chooses to tell about it so many years later, is remarkable in it. Even today, although legally divorce and financially independent, she alludes to living under the pressure of periodic harassment by Bin Laden clan operatives.

Lured by what seem to be true, youthful love and at first an extend "honeymoon" of affection, respect, and material indulgence from husband Yeslam whose elusive sibling is the notorious Osama the half Swiss, half-Persian Carmen has fewer illusions about her new role than most Saudi outsiders. But even she does not imagine the full impact of living in a rigidly patriarchal regime where internal family politics proved every bit as onerous as the heavy, tent-like abayas all women must wear it if they dare set foot outside the home.

View through the often humbling lens of perfect hindsight, life in Saudi Arabia a quarter-century ago looks full of promise. Young Carmen and her equally idealistic husband lives a cosmopolitan and sophisticated life, sustained effortlessly on the abundant resources of old family wealth and the sudden influx of vast new oil revenues. In Europe and North America, they lives as Westernized jet-setters; in Saudi Arabia, they lives through a kind of Alice-in-Wonderland looking glass. It is ancient Islamic society that is struggling with seemingly opposite demands of theocracy and modernity.

And for a while, as Carmen poignantly recalls through personal anecdotes and several dozen black-and-white family snapshots, it seems as if the forces of liberalization and openness are gaining the ascendant. There are more opportunities for women to study and work, more freedom of unchaperone association, more personal autonomy in conduct and apparel. But this tantalizing taste of freedom and equality, this crack in the door of religion-based oppression, abruptly slam shut with the Kuwait invasion and 1990 Gulf War.

There are four reasons why the writer is interested to study *Inside the Kingdom* memoir. First, this is a realistic memoir. It gives the knowledge about the history in September 11, 2001. This book gives information to the reader that there are many phenomena in the word. The writer writes her experiences. Carmen comes in the bin laden family until she goes out from her new family. This memoir describes that Saudi Arabia has strong culture about

women. On the other hand, when America has an accident, it effects to Bin Laden's family where they are boycotted by some people.

Second, it is educational factor. The writer wants to explore about feminism values in Saudi Arabia; how the women's position, women's role, women's right, and woman's participation. The writer gives information that women have different position in Saudi Arabia. Their activities are limited. Women must have permission from their family when they want to do activity out of their house

Third is because *Inside The Kingdom* is a spectacular book and an intimate account of life and also the journey one embarks on when one truly wishes to 'live life'. Carmen writes about Inside the Kingdom. This book is a Carmen's life, but it does not about herself. It tells about her environment. It is about women's discrimination in Saudi Arabia. This history arises controversy.

In addition, the last reason is controversial factor. *Inside The Kingdom* is published in 2004. *Inside the Kingdom* memoir gets so many reactions and criticism from society around the world. Most of reactions and criticism are positive. Some people support Carmen as woman that acts as wife of Yeslam Bin Laden and mother of her three daughters. Not only support but they are also very proud with her struggle. Also many people have negative reaction with this memoir. They think that this memoir is just fiction.

Based on the previous reasons, the writer will observe *Inside The Kingdom* memoir by Carmen Bin Laden using feminism theory. So, the writer

constructs the title WOMEN'S DISCRIMINATION IN SAUDI ARABIA REFLECTED IN CARMEN BIN LADEN'S *INSIDE THE KINGDOM* MEMOIR (2004): A FEMINIST APPROACH

## **B. Literature Review**

The first is Arina's research, this study aimed to analyze gender inequalities principles in Carmen bin Ladin's *Inside the Kingdom* viewed from A Feminist Approach. Besides, this study is also aimed to examine the structural elements of the memoir. In this study, the writer employs qualitative study in which there are two data sources in this method, namely primary and secondary data sources. The primary data sources and the object of the study are the memoir itself. While the secondary data sources are biography of the author, and other relevant information. The writer collects the data from both primary and secondary data sources in sort of a document as evidence. Based on the analysis, the writer draws some conclusions as follow: First, Carmen faces two cultures, West culture and the East culture. West is by America and East by Saudi Arabia. Carmen shows in Saudi Arabia that women is as an object that must be against patriarchal culture to get equalities in position, role right, and participation that is reflected in her character. Second, in this memoir the major character is also as the narrator because this memoir is autobiography types of memoir.

The second researcher is Por Lora Rozkowski (2008), when he is pleased to find a fascinating story of a woman trying to protect her children from the fall-out after the tragic events of September 11, 2001 and raise them



to be educated free-thinkers instead of grooming them to become chattel in a severe culture. Young and deeply in love, this half-Swiss and half-Persian girl married into the vast Bin Laden family. With her European upbringing, she is not prepared for her several years of marry life in the male-dominated Muslim world, where “women are no more than house pets”. The harsh treatment of Saudi women seems almost criminal, and Carmen does not hide the fact that money, status, and location all play an important role in determining how a woman is treated. In Saudi Arabia, sequestered Muslim wives are oppressed and treated like second class citizens. It is not only the men who expect women to stay under wraps, uneducated, and out of the public eye. The older Saudi women often force young women to adopt codes of behavior that turn them into pieces of property. Money, on the other hand, can buy a woman a temporary reprieve, a trip to Europe and America, where an almost unfettered life can be led, but when she returns behind the veil, life becomes frightening.

Not wanting her three young children to be subjected to this upbringing, Carmen fights her way out of a painful marriage and makes a life for her family in Europe and America. Just when things seem to be leveling out, the horror of 9/11 occurs and Carmen has to fight the stigma attached to her married name of Bin Laden. This painful memoir will be quick to read and difficult to put down. We may find it returning to read again about life inside the kingdom.

The differences between the writer and two previous studies are the theme and the perspective. Arina tells gender inequalities principles in Carmen bin Ladin's *Inside the Kingdom* viewed from A Feminist Approach and Rozkowski writes about the women culture story that of a woman trying to protect her children from the fall in Saudi Arabia. From previous research the writer has different on perspective to analyze *Inside The kingdom's* memoir. The writer uses feminist approach. The writer analyzes the Women's discrimination in Saudi Arabia reflected in Carmen bin laden's *Inside The Kingdom* memoir by using feminist approach.

### **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of the study above, the writer proposes, "How is women discrimination in Saudi Arabia reflected in Carmen bin laden *Inside The Kingdom* Memoir (2004) using feminist approach?"

### **D. Limitation of the Study**

The writer focuses this research in analyzing the women's discrimination in Saudi Arabia reflected in Carmen bin laden *Inside The Kingdom* memoir on feminist approach.

### **E. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of research are:

1. To analyze the structural element of the memoir by finding character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot, style and theme.
2. To describe women's discrimination in Saudi Arabia reflected in Carmen bin laden *Inside The Kingdom* memoir on feminism approach.

## **F. The Benefit of the Study**

The benefits of the study are:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

The study is expected to give additional knowledge and information particularly the literary studies on *Inside The Kingdom* memoir.

### **2. Practical Benefit**

The study is expected to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and the other researchers who have interest with literary studies on this memoir from individual feminism approach.

## **G. Research Method**

To analyze the data found in this memoir, the writer uses the qualitative method in this study.

### **1. Type of the Study**

In this research, the writer uses qualitative research. It is library research while data sources are using literary data. Qualitative research is type or research that does not use any calculation or statistic procedure.

### **2. Types of the Data and the Data Sources**

There are two types of the data namely primary data and secondary data.

#### **a. Primary Data Source**

The primary data sources are taken from Carmen Bin Laden *Inside The Kingdom* memoir.

#### b. Secondary Data Resources

The secondary data are taken from other sources, which are related to the primary data that support the analysis. They are books and virtual references as documentation.

### 3. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of data collections is note taking, with the steps are:

- a. Reading the memoir Carmen Bin Laden *Inside The Kingdom* memoir many times.
- b. Identifying the problem and to find the data. Therefore, research problem and objective of the study can be drawn.
- c. Collecting some supporting data from other references related to the topic. Therefore, the problems appearing will be able to be answered completely.
- d. Drawing the conclusion of the analysis that has been already done in the former chapter.

### 4. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis in this research paper is descriptive analysis in which the writer identifies the relationship between the memoir and social background in that occasion in the feminist approach.

## **H. Research Paper Organization**

The research paper organization of “Women’s Discrimination in Saudi Arabia Reflected in Carmen Bin Laden’s *Inside The Kingdom* Memoir (2004): A Feminist Approach. The presentation of this study consists of six chapters. Chapter I deals with introduction covering the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, research limitation, research objective, research significance, research methodology, and thesis organization. Chapter II deals with underlying theory containing the description of the theory of feminism. Chapter III deals with social background of Arab Saudi society in the late of twentieth century. Chapter IV deals with structural analysis containing the structural elements of the memoir and discussion. Chapter V presents feminist analysis. Chapter VI is conclusion and suggestion.